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TO : Acting Comptroller

DATE: 4 November 1953

FROM : Chief, Technical Accounting Staff ✓

SUBJECT: Unliquidated Contract Obligations Against Fiscal Year 1951  
Unvouchered Funds as of 30 June 1953

- REFERENCE: a. Memorandum to Acting DD/A from Chief, Logistics Office dated 21 October 1953; same subject
- b. Memorandum from you to Acting DD/A dated 22 September 1953; same subject

1. You requested comments concerning the referenced memorandum which suggests two bases for providing funds for payment of unliquidated contract obligations relating to appropriations for which funds have lapsed. There is no question regarding the propriety of either method suggested, namely, by obtaining no year appropriations or by legislative enactment authorizing Agency funds to be available for two additional years. Either of these methods for providing additional periods for utilizing appropriated funds would appear to be desirable; it is likely that the suggested five year availability period would permit the payment of practically all obligations prior to the lapsing date. The no year appropriation is preferable as this would permit further simplifications in the funding and accounting operations of the Agency.

2. As you know, we have in process of development a staff study suggesting that consideration be given to the establishment of a "reserve" fund prior to the date an appropriation lapses in an amount equivalent to estimated unliquidated confidential fund obligations against the appropriation which would be available for settling within the Agency vouchers relating to the lapsed appropriation. The actual presentation of this staff study is being temporarily deferred pending completion of a legal opinion concerning the proposal. This type of reserve fund could not at this date be established from the 1951 appropriation, to which the referenced memorandums apply, because it has already lapsed, but could be established from the 1952 appropriation before its lapsing date, 30 June 1954, and from appropriations for subsequent years.

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